

Contents

Foreword	i
Abbreviations and acronyms	iii
Acknowledgments.....	v
Executive summary	vii
The scale of the trafficking in persons phenomenon in Thailand.....	vii
Background	viii
Types of trafficking.....	viii
Labour trafficking	viii
Sexual exploitation and trafficking	ix
Trafficking in children	ix
Experiences and exploitation	ix
Trafficking and smuggling routes and methods	x
Fees, payments and debts	x
Traffickers—and their networks.....	xi
The way forward	xi
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Topic.....	1
1.2 Background and context.....	2
1.2.1 Background and settings	2
1.2.2 Context of this research	3
1.3 Purpose and goals	3
1.4 Structure.....	4
1.5 Methodology	4
2 Cambodia	7
2.1 Overview and data.....	7
2.1.1 Irregular migration	8
2.1.2 Trafficking in persons	10
2.2 Causes of irregular migration and trafficking	11
2.2.1 Push and pull factors	11
2.2.2 Availability of legal avenues of migration	19
2.2.3 Displacement, forced migration and trafficking	27
2.3 Types of trafficking.....	29
2.3.1 Sexual exploitation	29
2.3.2 Labour trafficking	31
2.3.3 Trafficking in children.....	35
2.3.4 Other types of trafficking	38
2.4 Means and routes for irregular migration and trafficking	39
2.4.1 Means and methods of irregular migration and trafficking to Thailand	39
2.4.2 Common routes	41
2.4.3 Entry into Thailand	42
2.5 Exploitation	44
2.5.1 Conditions of travel	44
2.5.2 Treatment by traffickers	45
2.5.3 Payments and debts	46
2.6 Perpetrators	50
2.6.1 Profile of individual perpetrators	50
2.6.2 Smuggling and trafficking groups and networks	53
2.6.3 Legal and semi-legal operators	54
2.6.4 Persons aiding and facilitating smugglers and traffickers	55
3 Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR).....	57
3.1 Overview and data.....	57

3.1.1	Irregular migration	58
3.1.2	Trafficking in persons	59
3.2	Causes of irregular migration and trafficking	60
3.2.1	Push and pull factors	61
3.2.2	Availability of legal avenues of migration	68
3.2.3	Displacement, forced migration, and trafficking	77
3.3	Types of trafficking.....	78
3.3.1	Sexual exploitation	78
3.3.2	Labour trafficking	81
3.3.3	Trafficking in children.....	83
3.4	Means and routes for irregular migration and trafficking	86
3.4.1	Means of transportation	86
3.4.2	Common routes	87
3.4.3	Entry into Thailand	88
3.5	Exploitation	89
3.5.1	Conditions of travel	89
3.5.2	Treatment by traffickers	90
3.5.3	Payments and debts.....	91
3.6	Perpetrators	93
3.6.1	Profile of individual perpetrators	93
3.6.2	Smuggling and trafficking groups and networks	94
3.6.3	Legal and semi-legal operators	96
3.6.4	Persons aiding and facilitating smugglers and traffickers	97
4	Myanmar.....	99
4.1	Overview and data.....	99
4.1.1	Irregular migration	100
4.1.2	Trafficking in persons	101
4.2	Causes of irregular migration and trafficking	102
4.2.1	Push and pull factors	103
4.2.2	Availability of legal avenues for migration	111
4.2.3	Displacement, forced migration and trafficking	115
4.3	Types of trafficking.....	119
4.3.1	Sexual exploitation	119
4.3.2	Labour trafficking	122
4.3.3	Trafficking in children.....	123
4.3.4	Other types of trafficking	125
4.4	Means and routes for irregular migration and trafficking	126
4.4.1	Means and methods of irregular migration and trafficking to Thailand	126
4.4.2	Common routes	128
4.4.3	Entry into Thailand	131
4.5	Exploitation	132
4.5.1	Conditions of travel	133
4.5.2	Treatment by traffickers	134
4.5.3	Payments and debts	136
4.6	Perpetrators	139
4.6.1	Profile of individual perpetrators	139
4.6.2	Smuggling and trafficking groups and networks	141
4.6.3	Legal and semi-legal operators	143
4.6.4	Persons aiding and facilitating smugglers and traffickers	144
5	Thailand	147
5.1	Overview and settings.....	147
5.1.1	Statistics	148
5.1.2	Economic developments in Thailand	152
5.1.3	Demographic developments	157
5.1.4	Job availability and wages	159

5.2 Reception of irregular migrants	162
5.2.1 Locations	162
5.2.2 Communities of prior migrants, family and friends	164
5.2.3 Refugees in Thailand	164
5.3 Irregular migration and trafficking in persons – Industries and Sectors.....	165
5.3.1 Agriculture.....	166
5.3.2 Fishing and seafood processing	168
5.3.3 Construction.....	175
5.3.4 Domestic services.....	177
5.3.5 Hospitality and retail	181
5.3.6 Manufacturing.....	182
5.3.7 Sexual services, prostitution and adult entertainment.....	186
5.3.8 Trafficking in children.....	192
5.4 Vulnerabilities and exploitation	196
5.4.1 Circumstances that make migrants vulnerable to trafficking	196
5.4.2 Means of exploitation and trafficking	200
5.5 Release and return.....	205
5.5.1 Exit from trafficking situation.....	205
5.5.2 Remaining stay in Thailand	205
5.5.3 Legalisation: The Nationality Verification System	206
5.5.4 Return to home country.....	208
5.5.5 Re-victimisation and re-trafficking	210
5.6 Secondary movements and regional issues	211
6 Observations and Intervention	213
6.1 Government and policy	214
6.1.1 Accepting responsibility	214
6.1.2 Policy development and implementation	215
6.1.3 ‘Root causes’	216
6.1.4 Remittances	216
6.2 Law and law enforcement	217
6.2.1 National laws against trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants	217
6.2.2 Law enforcement	218
6.2.3 International cooperation	219
6.2.4 Corruption and accountability	220
6.3 Prevention and protection	221
6.3.1 Promoting safe migration	221
6.3.2 Legal avenues for migration	222
6.3.3 The spectrum of smuggling and trafficking	222
6.3.4 Community-based interventions	223
6.3.5 Education and training	224
6.4 Research and knowledge gaps	224
6.4.1 Information gaps	224
6.4.2 Insufficient data	226
6.4.3 Policy and legal analysis	227
7 Bibliography	229